

## Live chat with Estelle Paraque - 22 August 2020

Hi everyone! Thank you so much to Estelle for doing her talk and and this chat. Feel free to ask Estelle any questions about her talk and book.

Lorna Wanstall17:00

I used to drink Campari years ago.

Lorna Wanstall17:01

Estelle Was Elizabeth really serious about wanting to marry her Frog.

Estelle Paraque17:01

That's a good question Lorna...

Estelle Paraque17:02

I'd say in all seriousness: no

Bill Wolff17:02

Estelle, I never thought E1 was much of traveler. Did she go "abroad?"

Estelle Paraque17:02

what she wanted was to string along the French and ensuring that she had one enemy at a time: aka SPAIN

Estelle Paraque17:02

Bill: Elizabeth never go abroad but she travelled a lot in England, she loved her country and her people very much

Lorna Wanstall17:02

I get that impression as well despite what it believed.. The name "Frog" gives me the clue to why that would be

Estelle Paraque17:03

Lorna: Elizabeth played with the French. She made them believe hard that she was serious. I don't think she had ever wanted to marry anyone

Roland Hui17:03

What was the French response attitude towards the Spanish Armada invasion of England?

Estelle Paraque17:03

Lorna: Elizabeth liked Francis of Anjou a lot. He was funny and entertaining but she was not attracted to him at all

Lorna Wanstall17:03

Elizabeth was very good at playing one enemy off against each other...

Estelle Paraque17:03

Roland: the French were scared that Spain would turn their forces against them so they were quite relieved they went to England

Lamorna17:04

Hi Estelle, I listened to your talk this morning. Thanks for joining us today. When Catherine de Medici was hoping for Elizabeth to marry one of her sons, do you think her underlying motive was empire building and her main aim was to get her grandchild on the thrones of both France and England?

Estelle Paraque17:04

Lorna: extremely good indeed

Claire Ridgway17:04

Estelle, I loved the bit about how Elizabeth wasn't procrastinating as much as trying to get away from what men wanted her to do.:

Estelle Paraque17:04

Lamorna: totally spot on here. This was Catherine's life goal indeed. Especially as she lost her mother and father when she was 1 month old. She wanted a dynasty and a big family.

Estelle Paraque17:05

Claire: exactly. She just played with them. When people say Elizabeth was indecisive I always reply: pay attention to what it got her and you realise she wasn't. She was planning to get what she wanted. Always

Claire Ridgway17:06

Do you think that Dudley was her true love?

Lorna Wanstall17:06

Very like her father but he was always wanting war whereas Elizabeth played a very cold and calculating game with all her enemies.. I said it before but Elizabeth took the world of men by throat and shook it till it rattled

Clare Shepherd17:06

If Elizabeth had married, the husband would be King, over her. That's why she stayed the "Virgin Queen" according to most British historians

Estelle Paraque17:06

Claire: 100% but he betrayed her so many times (Lettice notably) and I think that they both loved each other but they both loved power more if you see what I mean

Claire Ridgway17:07

Thank you!

Estelle Paraque17:07

Lorna: you're right on that. Also England during Elizabeth's time at least the first 10-15 years couldn't afford wars.. Elizabeth had lost some battles to the French in 1562...

Estelle Paraque17:07

Clare: well a potential husband would have and wouldn't have. Look at Mary and Philip. Philip didn't keep England when Mary died...

Lorna Wanstall17:08

Yes and not to mention making a bit of a muddle of one with Scotland as well

Roland Hui17:08

Estelle, how would you define Mary Stuart and Catherine de Medicis' relationship? Was it warm? Or did Catherine dislike Mary?

Estelle Paraque17:08

Claire: Dudley and Elizabeth met young, they probably were infatuated with one another. We have ambassadors reporting that Dudley left Elizabeth's private chamber in the middle of the night.. I doubt they were playing cards haha

Estelle Paraque17:09

Lorna: completely. And Scotland became an ally once Mary Stuart was no longer queen...

Claire Ridgway17:09

Estelle,ha!

Clare Shepherd17:09

I don't think Elizabeth was prepared to take the risk. Additionally, most of the men would have been Catholics and Continental.

Estelle Paraque17:10

Roland: Mary annoyed Catherine massively... She was a little brat that felt entitled. Mary once Catherine the daughter of a shoemaker from Florence. when in fact Catherine was the daughter of a powerful duke...

Estelle Paraque17:10

Clare: I don't think Elizabeth saw a risk in marrying per se but in having children and also I think she didn't want to share her power...

Estelle Paraque17:11

Roland: Catherine disliked Mary but she also felt bad for her especially when things got bad for her once imprisoned in England. Funny enough, the reason why Mary had to return to Scotland in 1561 was because Catherine wouldn't let her stay in France, too much influence

Clare Shepherd17:11

Estelle why did Henry call Elizabeth a whore?. Not likely to win her to him or his family.

Lorna Wanstall17:12

Dr Dave (Starkey) says Elizabeth had the mind of a computer programmer, I reckon she saw her reign as one giant chess game because she instinctively seemed to know what to do even when things went wrong.. I think her mind was more like a steel trap.

Claire Ridgway17:13

Elizabeth sacrificed a lot in being married to her country but it paid off.

Roland Hui17:13

Is it true that Henri III enjoyed cross dressing, or is that just a myth?

Lorna Wanstall17:13

Clare I think if that was said, Henry was just venting his spleen since he could no longer call Anne any names

Estelle Paraque17:13

Clare: no one repeated it to Elizabeth herself. The English ambassador wasn't present when he said it

Clare Shepherd17:13

Probably just as well.

Estelle Paraque17:13

Claire: indeed

Laurie Duerr17:14

Hi Estelle, how did William Cecil's views during all this with the back-and-forth with the French potentially influence Elizabeth as well?

Estelle Paraque17:14

Roland: a myth that has its roots in the fact that he loved theatre more than hunting, so people thought he was too effeminate because of it. Funny enough he was a very strong warrior and won lots of battles against Protestant under his brother's reign

Claire Ridgway17:14

It's so interesting to look at Elizabeth and Mary, Queen of Scots through French eyes, so different, but it makes sense.

Estelle Paraque17:15

Hi Laurie, I think he played a role like any other strong advisors to a king or a queen but I think in the end Elizabeth. was always the one calling the shots...

Lamorna17:15

Thanks Estelle: I didn't know that Catherine was orphaned at such a young age, no wonder she wanted a big family and a successful dynasty. There were rumours that Elizabeth became pregnant and had a child (when she had an episode of `dropsy' which caused swelling similar to pregnancy). Do you put any truth on those rumours - Dudley being the most likely candidate to be the father of any child Elizabeth may have had?

Laurie Duerr17:15

Ok makes sense, thanks!

Estelle Paraque17:16

Claire: it is and there are so many letters of Mary Stuart that still haven't been looked at because they were misplaced in archives or because they are everywhere in France and Scotland

Roland Hui17:16

What exactly did Charles IX die of? He died relatively young.

Estelle Paraque17:16

Lamorna: not at all. But funny enough on the topic of Elizabeth being pregnant. Did you know that her royal doctors were all paid by Dudley so there are rumours that says that Elizabeth couldn't conceive and that he paid them to ensure this was not revealed but that would explain why she remained single

Lorna Wanstall17:16

Did Elizabeth have any memories of her mother and how much did Kat Ashley tell her of her mother....Did she make any reference to her mother at all during her reign? I think she would have known to keep her trap shut during the reigns of her father/brother and sister.

Estelle Paraque17:18

Roland: if my memory is good he died of tuberculosis.. everyone thought he'd recover. There is a very sad letter from Catherine saying two days before his death: my son will be up and running in a few days...

Claire Ridgway17:18

Estelle, brilliant! It's always wonderful when new letters are translated

Lorna Wanstall17:18

I seem to recall that her "Frog" referred to her as an old woman, with a bad leg . Is there any truth in that.

Estelle Paraque17:19

Lorna: that's a good question. I think Kat Ashley did say good things about Anne Boleyn. It's hard to know exactly what kind of memory she had of her mother but we know for sure that you were not allowed to criticise her mother in her presence and she referred to her (directly and indirectly) in speeches and during audiences with ambassadors

Estelle Paraque17:19

Lorna: it wasn't Francis (the Frog) who said that but it was Henry III...

Lorna Wanstall17:19

Ok..

Estelle Paraque17:19

It's so funny because Henry III said so many bad things about Elizabeth, yet at the end he truly needed her friendship and they developed this weird friendship through secret letters

Lorna Wanstall17:20

but did elizabeth have a bad/sore leg

Clare Shepherd17:20

Didn't Elizabeth have her mother's jewel left, and keep it safe all her life?

Lamorna17:20

Estelle: I didn't know the royal doctors were paid by Dudley. Spreading rumours that Elizabeth could not conceive would make her less desirable as a wife - no point in marrying Elizabeth if there would be no heir to the throne, if Elizabeth died, her widowed husband would no longer have had any power if he was not the father of the heir. I wonder if Dudley put the rumours about so that other men would be put off marrying Elizabeth? This may not have been entirely to Elizabeth's disliking!

Claire Ridgway17:20

I think the fact that Elizabeth used Anne's image at her coronation procession speaks volumes.

Estelle Paraque17:20

Clare: yes and she was wearing a ring with their two portraits in it

Clare Shepherd17:20

Sorry don't know where the "left" came from

Estelle Paraque17:21

Lamorna: that is a great question!! I have literally no idea but that's a very good point and question!

Clare Shepherd17:21

Thanks Estelle.

Lorna Wanstall17:21

Yes Claire Elizabeth certainly made sure just whose daughter she was..

Estelle Paraque17:22

Are you receiving my replies?

Bill Wolff17:23

Yes Estelle

Lorna Wanstall17:23

Lamorna, no one really knew for sure if Elizabeth was unable to conceive, she may have been, but she wasn't going to risk it one way or the other.

Roland Hui17:23

When King Philip of Spain married the French princess Elisabeth of Valois - did the English see this alliance as a great threat to them?

Lamorna17:25

Elizabeth was highly intelligent and I'm sure she would have had an amazing memory - I'm sure she would have had some recollections of Anne, even though she was so young when she died, even if only isolated incidents and images. The fact that she wore Anne's image right up until her death shows how important her mother was to her, and she never broke faith with her.

Lorna Wanstall17:25

Roland, Spain was skint, Phillip wanted to marry elizabeth to use as a money box, Elizabeth told him to get stuffed, so Phillip had to marry where there was money France had money..

Laurie Duerr17:25

Estelle, you mentioned in your talk that Elizabeth learned alot from Mary her sister as Queen; was it more related to the "lessons" she learned from her and what NOT to do as a female monarch?

Estelle Paraque17:25

Roland: yes they did and they really didn't like that at all but there was little they could do about it as Elizabeth just had refused Philip's hand...

Estelle Paraque17:25

Lamorna: I agree with you on this

Estelle Paraque17:26

Lorna: France didn't have that much money as they were fighting heretics and soon they were going to be ravaged because of the religious civil wars... But Elisabeth of Valois was the perfect wife and consort.. very loved in Spain

Lamorna17:27

Lorna: I agree, Elizabeth had no intention of becoming pregnant, the risk of dying in childbirth and leaving the country with a baby as heir, or else if the baby also died then leaving Mary as the next heir, who would certainly have returned the country to Catholicism was too much for Elizabeth to stomach - despite having the stomach of a King!

Lorna Wanstall17:27

Do you feel that she also learnt a little bit of what to do and not do when she came to the throne from Edward as well.. I.e Not letting the nobles become too big for their boots.

Estelle Paraque17:27

Laurie: no I think she learnt from her in a positive way. Especially in speeches writing.. Mary was very good with rhetoric and Elizabeth always attended her sister's public oration and then used the same rhetoric and imagery to represent herself.. I think it's quite nice 😊

Estelle Paraque17:27

Lorna: you mean Elizabeth or Mary?

Laurie Duerr17:28

Ah ok, yes that certainly makes sense!

Lorna Wanstall17:28

I mean Elizabeth..

Estelle Paraque17:29

Lorna: yes probably, especially with what happened with Edward's uncle 😊

Estelle Paraque17:29

I think what's sad really is that during her youth Elizabeth was quite close to Edward and even Mary and then the three of them became like strangers and even enemies

Estelle Paraque17:30

the way Edward treated his sisters when they were literally mother figures is appalling

Estelle Paraque17:30

regardless of what he thought of their religious views (for Mary) he should have been a better brother to both of them

Clare Shepherd17:30



But then Mary defied him.

Claire Ridgway17:30

Do you think the fact that Elizabeth was surrounded by good advisors from her pre-accession days helped,?

Lorna Wanstall17:30

Do you think Thomas Seymour tried to or did rape Elizabeth? I believe he tried and Elizabeth fought him off or Kat Ashley stopped him. Maybe even a bit of both.... Catherine sending Elizabeth away wasn't a punishment, but more to protect Elizabeth from Seymour.

Estelle Paraque17:30

Clare: yes of course but it is still sad that their bond didn't overcome that

Laurie Duerr17:31

But to be fair, Edward was heavily influenced by Edward Seymour..

Estelle Paraque17:31

Claire: completely. I always say that Elizabeth's success is mostly due to the fact that her advisers were truly committed to her...

Claire Ridgway17:31

Totally agree with you re Edward, he was harsh.

Estelle Paraque17:32

Lorna: I think there is something dodgy like that yes but Rebecca Larsson is working on this and saying that actually it didn't happen and I can't wait for her book and evidence to change my mind 🤔

Estelle Paraque17:32

Laurie: completely right.. but it's just sad that the three of them didn't remain close...

Estelle Paraque17:32

Claire: I think if Edward had lived longer he would have been worse than Henry VIII

Estelle Paraque17:32

There's something about him especially when you look at his diary where you think something is not right

Estelle Paraque17:32

at least in my opinion.. ha

Laurie Duerr17:32

Yes agreed, its certainly unfortunate that the siblings weren't close..

Roland Hui17:33

Estelle, one always hears that Catherine de Medicis had an interest in the occult - is this true? Did it go beyond just astrology and her patronage of Nostradamus? Where did rumours that she was holding Black Masses and such, come from?

Clare Shepherd17:33

He was heading towards religious intolerance when he died, Edward that is.

Claire Ridgway17:33

Estelle, yes!

Estelle Paranque17:34

Roland: I think she had an interest in superstition and maybe even magic but not in the occult and she didn't hold anything like that. But she was interested in some witchcraft practice and obviously this was not a good look for her..

Clare Shepherd17:34

I have wondered if he was autistic, he certainly seemed to be a cold fish

Lorna Wanstall17:34

Very interesting, but I do feel that Catherine took off her rose coloured specs and Thomas for what he truly was after he got a little too rambunctious with Elizabeth.

Estelle Paranque17:34

Clare: completely and I think he was obsessed with power

Claire Ridgway17:34

I think Edward would have gone on to execute heretics just like his sister, and I think Jane would have been similar.

Estelle Paranque17:34

Lorna: yes that's fair

Estelle Paranque17:35

Claire: so you mean Catholics? Jane had no interest in power though so I don't know what would have happened. I think if he had had a better health they probably would have married though..

Laurie Duerr17:35

So many "what if's" to ponder!

Estelle Paranque17:35

what do you think people?

Estelle Paranque17:35

Laurie: completely and this is also why history is so interesting 😊

Clare Shepherd17:36

Yes, that too, Estelle. But he was very young at his death. I think his character may have caused a lot of problems later for the county, if he had lived.

Lorna Wanstall17:36

Jane never wanted to be queen, but I think she wanted to try and make the best out of a bad deal

Estelle Paraque17:36

Clare: I agree

Estelle Paraque17:36

Lorna: fair

Clare Shepherd17:36

I think so too, Claire

Estelle Paraque17:36

Guys, who's your favourite Tudor monarch and why?

Claire Ridgway17:36

Yes, Catholics. The way Lady Jane Grey spoke out against Mary's religious policies shows just how strong she would have been. I'm sure there would have been religious persecutions.

Claire Ridgway17:37

I think Edward would have been intolerant and cruel.

Lorna Wanstall17:37

Do you think that Elizabeth was influenced by Mary beheading Jane? Which is why Elizabeth procrastinated over signing Mary QoS death warrant

Roland Hui17:38

Estelle, do you think Mary Q. of Scots had a hand in Lord Darnley's murder?

Claire Ridgway17:38

I love Elizabeth

Lorna Wanstall17:38

Claire He does come across as a very cold hearted little prig

Estelle Paraque17:38

Lorna: yes completely... This is not something she wanted to do until she had no other option

Estelle Paraque17:38

Lorna: haha! he does!

Estelle Paraque17:39

Roland: I'd say probably yes but there's a new theory offered by Kate Williams and I need to ask her what it is again but she seems to think she didn't. But I think she did... I think she was involved in the murder because Darnley was a HORRIBLE person...

Lorna Wanstall17:39

Roland... I believe Mary QoS knew and agreed with Darnley having to go, but didn't know how the lairds planned to kill Darnley

Bill Wolff17:40

Lorna, I agree with you.

Lamorna17:40

Estelle: I agree, both William Cecil and Francis Walsingham were committed to Elizabeth completely although I wonder if their commitment was to her personally or if they were committed to the Protestant cause and saw Elizabeth as the best way to ensure that England did not return to Catholicism.

Laurie Duerr17:40

Yes agreed , it was the only way she'd really get rid of Darnley..

Lorna Wanstall17:40

And yet I believe Mary thought she was making a good marriage.. I have a theory about why Mary married Darnley.

Clare Shepherd17:40

Actually, the Tudors aren't a a very edifying family, but Elizabeth was the most attractive as she seemed capable of seeing two sides of a question, and she was the most intelligent of the bunch.

Estelle Paraque17:40

Lamorna: I think a bit of both: the Protestant cause but also her and who she was.. I think they admired her..

Estelle Paraque17:41

Lorna: what is your theory? I think it was just to piss off Elizabeth haha and it worked!

Estelle Paraque17:41

Clare: I agree with you on this! 😊

Lorna Wanstall17:41

Estelle Elizabeth certainly knew how to win hearts and get people to worship her as "Gloriana" not in the Catholic circles of course.

Laurie Duerr17:42

Estelle, What do you think Elizabeth's thoughts really were on James I? Did she always have it in her mind that he would ultimately be her successor?

Estelle Paraque17:42

Lorna: completely indeed and she was very smart...

Roland Hui17:43

Estelle, how would you define Elizabeth and Henry IV's relationship?

Lamorna17:43

I agree to some extent that Edward would have been a harsh monarch if he had lived long enough to rule in his own right, but you have to feel sorry for him, his mother died at his birth, his father was largely distant, Edward was raised and educated by people who were largely using him to their own ends, his eldest sister Mary was much older and had very different beliefs. I like to think that Elizabeth and Edward were close while they were young.

Claire Ridgway17:43

Your talk, Estelle, made me want to dig more into Catherine de Medici

Lorna Wanstall17:43

Estelle It was partly to piss Elizabeth off. But it was more to the point she intended to use Darley to stir up the Catholic north, and that when she marched into London with Elizabeth's head in her hand, the English Catholics would more readily accept her with a Catholic English lord by her side

Estelle Paraque17:44

Laurie: I think she knew she didn't have a choice of having him as a successor and I think she tried to create a bond with him and to teach him what she knew about power and monarchy.. it didn't always go well ha

Clare Shepherd17:44

There was a lot of pressure on the aging Elizabeth about succession

Lamorna17:44

Estelle: I agree, Elizabeth was very charismatic, she seemed to inspire love, loyalty and desire in men. I love her relationship with William Cecil, who was the mainstay of her reign.

Estelle Paraque17:44

Roland: it started very well. She liked him but she didn't like his attitude towards women (lots of mistresses etc.) but she supported him 100% until he became a Catholic which she saw as a massive betrayal.. it was never the same after that for her

Lorna Wanstall17:44

She never named James I believe, but I think that was her plan all along.

Estelle Paraque17:45

Claire: wait for my next book...

Laurie Duerr17:45

Interesting, thanks! Yeah, James definitely was a challenge from the beginning!

Estelle Paraque17:45

Can you guys keep a secret? 🤔

Claire Ridgway17:45

Oooh what????,

Estelle Paraque17:45

I can't tell you all the details as there will be a press release in the next month or so but I've signed a contract with a big publishing house to finally tell the story of Elizabeth I and Catherine de Medici 😊

Estelle Paraque17:46

so if you're interested in knowing more about Catherine, I'm sure you'll find lots of information in it 😊

Bill Wolff17:46

Congrats Estelle, can

Laurie Duerr17:46

Awesome, cant wait!

Bill Wolff17:46

can't wait!

Clare Shepherd17:46

That's great news.

Claire Ridgway17:46

Yay! Congratulations!

Estelle Paraque17:46

Thank you guys! And this book will be much more affordable £20-£25

Lorna Wanstall17:46

Nice one Estelle, another book to watch out for.

Estelle Paraque17:46

so I'm very excited about it and I'm already writing it 😊

Estelle Paraque17:47

I truly hope you'll love it. I am so passionate about telling the story of their relationship

Estelle Paraque17:47

this great friendship that turned sour at the end for various reasons

Roland Hui17:47

Estelle, was the life of Marguerite of Valois really that scandalous? I only know her from the movie 'La Reine Margot' (which was highly fictionalized). Looking forward to the book!

Estelle Paraque17:47

and I've always said: the true rival to Elizabeth was never Mary Stuart but Catherine de Medici as they truly both ruled over Europe together

Claire Ridgway17:47

Such wonderful news. It was clear in your talk, what a passion you have for these women's stories.

Estelle Paraque17:48

Roland: it was and it wasn't. I think what people find shocking is the fact that she had lots of lovers while married but Henry IV had many mistresses and he didn't care what she was doing. When married, these two couldn't stand one another, when they divorced, they became friends 😊

Lorna Wanstall17:48

It's funny when you start writing a book, at first it seems a little daunting, but once you let your mind go it is very exciting.. Watching your characters coming to life is amazing.

Estelle Paraque17:48

Claire: I love them both so much it is insane!! haha

Estelle Paraque17:48

It is about time that someone reveals their story to the public

Estelle Paraque17:48

It will be narrative non fiction which means I'm writing it as if it was a novel but it is all historically accurate...

Claire Ridgway17:49

So true!

Laurie Duerr17:49

Sounds great!

Roland Hui17:49

Estelle, did Catherine have a good relationship with her husband Henri II?

Estelle Paraque17:49

I truly hope you'll love it guys 😊

Claire Ridgway17:49

A real power play

Lorna Wanstall17:50

Fiction or Non fiction it's still exciting, and the one thing about history is the deeper you dig the more exciting it gets

Estelle Paraque17:50

Roland: it depends what you mean by good. She was infatuated with him and he didn't care about her. He was in love with his royal favourite Diane de Poitiers. But he did trust Catherine with political matters and valued her...

Estelle Paraque17:50

Lorna: completely this is why it is so fascinating 😊

Clare Shepherd17:50

You have the right audience here, Estelle, to enjoy your book.

Lorna Wanstall17:50

Estelle not to mention Catherine De Medici flying squadron

Roland Hui17:51

What did Catherine do to Diane after Henri's death? Was she banished from court?

Claire Ridgway17:51

It's so impres

Estelle Paraque17:51

Roland: yes Catherine banished Diane and took back one of the most beautiful royal castles (and my favourite castle of all times): Chenonceau

Claire Ridgway17:51

It's so important to write about what you're passionate about. It shines through.

Estelle Paraque17:51

Diane deserved it: what a bitch.. can't stand her



Estelle Paraque17:51

obviously I won't write that in my book haha

Estelle Paraque17:52

Claire: yes I think you're right 😊

Claire Ridgway17:52

Ha!

Estelle Paraque17:52

Lorna: indeed 😊

Roland Hui17:52

Catherine had so many kids, did she have a favorite?

Clare Shepherd17:52

Your passion for history is infectious Estelle.

Lorna Wanstall17:53

Estelle Diane was an advocate of drinkable gold to try and prolong her youth and beauty.. It's said that when he body was dug up her bones had a golden glow.

Estelle Paraque17:53

I think it's so ironic to see that men during the sixteenth century were scared of women in power, and then two women were in control of politics for over 30 years or so ha

Estelle Paraque17:53

Roland: Henry III was her favourite... she loved him more than anyone else... she never said why. I think she said many times he was so clever...

Bill Wolff17:53

Ep: we're still scared!

Estelle Paraque17:53

Lorna: yes I think there's something like that about her. I really dislike the way Diane treated Catherine...

Estelle Paraque17:54

Bill: haha!

Estelle Paraque17:54

but where is the new Elizabeth and the new Catherine 🤔

Lorna Wanstall17:54

Estelle I do feel that Diane should have stepped back once Henry Married Catherine.. But perhaps Henry wouldn't let her

Roland Hui17:54

I heard that Catherine disliked Francois-Hercule (the later Duke of Alencon) because of his ugliness -is that true, do you know?

Estelle Paraque17:55

Roland: she said many times that he was ugly yes.. Henry III felt bad for his brother that once he interrupted his mother to say he was good enough looking haha.. I find it funny. I'm not sure if it was the reason or if it had to do that he was more of a rebel. Never listening to his mother's advice, etc.

Estelle Paraque17:55

He was also always supporting people who would defy his brother, Henry, so Catherine would side with Henry

Lorna Wanstall17:56

Which portrayal of Elizabeth's "Frog" in film/tv is actually quite close to the mark of what he was truly like

Estelle Paraque17:56

Lorna: yes she should have, regardless if Henry let her do it or not she should have been more discreet.. There was no need for the countless humiliations Catherine endured... honestly...

Estelle Paraque17:56

Lorna: I'm actually not sure... maybe Elizabeth I with Cate Blanchet?

Lorna Wanstall17:57

True, but perhaps Diane enjoyed humiliating Catherine since Diane couldn't marry the king

Roland Hui17:57

Lorna, Alencon was great in 'Elizabeth R' with Glenda Jackson. Incidentally, the actor who played him was Judi Dench's husband.

Estelle Paraque17:58

Lorna: probably some truth in this

Lorna Wanstall17:58

Elizabeth R is classic tv.. Glenda Jackson played Elizabeth to perfection  
Estelle Paraque17:58

True

Claire Ridgway17:59

Elizabeth only gave nicknames to those she cared about so there must have been true affection.

Lorna Wanstall17:59

Just like Genevieve Bujold play Anne B to perfection

Claire Ridgway17:59

Thank you so much to Estelle for today's chat and also for the wonderful video. Lamorna is the winner of our give-away and we'll arrange the sending of Estelle's book to her. Congratulations!